

Mails.

Occidental & Oriental Steamship Company.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE, VIA THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC OCEANIC CONNECTIONS.

THE Steamship *Belgic* will be despatched for San Francisco, via Amoy, Kobe and Yokohama, on WEDNESDAY, the 11th September, at Noon. Connection being made at Yokohama, with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan ports.

All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full, and same will be received at the Company's Office, until 5 p.m. the day previous to sailing.

First-class Fare granted as follows:—
To San Francisco, \$225.00
To San Francisco and return, \$430.00
To Liverpool, \$325.00
To London, \$330.00
To other European ports, proportionate rates.

Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa), within one year, will be allowed a discount of 10%. This discount does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of this Company, No. 504, Queen's Road Central, HONGKONG, September 5, 1899. 1646

Mails.

CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, ADEN, PORT SAID, MALTA, GIBRALTAR, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

ALSO, BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND AUSTRALIA.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for BATAVIA, PERKIAN, GULF PORTS, MARSHALLS, TRISTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

SPECIES ONLY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship *ROHILLA*, Captain M. DE HORNE, with Her Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this for SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO and SUEZ CANAL, calling at MARSHALLS, and usual Ports of Call, on WEDNESDAY, 11th September, at Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m. on the day before sailing.

Passengers and Goods (Gold) at the Office until 4 p.m. on the day before sailing.

For further Particulars regarding FREIGHT AND PASSAGE, apply to the PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Office, Hongkong.

The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment. Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bill of Lading.

Passengers desiring of insuring their baggage can do so on application at the Company's Office.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong, August 27, 1899. 1646

Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL.

CITY HALL, HONGKONG.

THIS EVENING, 7th September, 1899.

COME AND WITNESS

The well-worth-seeing Troupe and the talented Family of

PROFESSOR BERNHARDY RUCHWALDY.

WIZARD OF THE EAST.

THE KING OF THE HUNGARIAN CIGANY NEGROES.

And Real Spiritual and Modern SORCERER.

THE THREE WONDERFUL CHILDREN.

KATHARIN, GENERALLY CALLED THE SCOTCH LASSIE.

9 Years Old.

In their Famous and Amusing ENTERTAINMENTS of modern PHYSION, SPIRITUAL, OPTIC, MAGIC, INSTRUMENTAL, VOCAL AND ALSO COMEDY.

MADAME RUCHWALDY, PIANISTE.

MR. RUDOLF, the Lady Vocal Performer.

GOARINO, 'RUSSIAN CHAOT' 'EXECUTION' 'THE CIGANY NEGROES'.

For Particulars see Hand-Bills.

Door open at half-past eight. Performance at nine o'clock sharp.

Prices of Admission: Dress Circle, \$2.00; Front Seats, 1.00; Back Seats, 0.50.

Tickets to be had at Messrs. KELLY & WATSON'S.

N.B.—Soldiers and Sailors, HALF-PRICE for Front and Back Seats.

BERNHARDY, Manager.

Hongkong, September 7, 1899. 1713

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP BATAVIA, FROM VANCOUVER, YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

THE above Steamship having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature, and take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, September 6, 1899. 1733

FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Gau Quin Sia*, having arrived from the above Port, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 9th instant will be subject to sale.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Consignees are requested to present all Claims for damages and/or shortages not later than the 16th inst., otherwise they will not be recognized.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, September 2, 1899. 1702

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE S.S. *Arratoon Agar* having arrived from the above Port, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY'S Godowns, at West Point, whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 7th instant will be subject to sale. No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Consignees are hereby informed, that all Claims must be made immediately, as none will be entertained after the 6th instant.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, September 2, 1899. 1700

To-day's Advertisements.

GOVERNMENT BILLS.

TENDERS FOR SPECIE.

current in the Colony, weighing 7.17, in exchange for STERLING BILLS, drawn at 10 days sight, on the Lord Commissioners of H.M. Treasury, London, will be RECEIVED by the CHIEF PAYMASTER, Army Pay Department, until 11 a.m., on TUESDAY, the 10th September, 1899.

The Tenders to state the Total Amount required (in Pounds Sterling), and the Amount for which each Bill should be drawn, but no Bill will be issued for sums less than £100.

The Tenders to be in duplicate, in sealed Covers, addressed to The Chief Paymaster, Army Pay Department, and endorsed "Tenders for Government Bills."

The Tenders to accept or reject any or all of the Tenders is reserved.

C. H. CHAUNY, Colonel, Chief Paymaster, China.

HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY OFFICE, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 7th September, 1899. 1743

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Ordinary General MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, on SATURDAY, the 21st instant, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, together with a Statement of Account to 30th June, 1899.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 11th to the 21st September, both days inclusive.

DOUGLAS LAPRAKE & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, September 7, 1899. 1741

FOR KOBE.

The Steamship *Riverdale*, Moore, Commander, will be despatched for the above Ports on the 18th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, September 7, 1899. 1742

DAKIN'S PURE CARBOLIC SOAP.

Toilet and Medicinal, a safeguard against all skin diseases.

CARBOLIC SOAP.

for Dogs and Horses.

Marine Soap.

Lathers freely in salt water, useful for Sea Bathers.

Bath Gloves and Bath Straps.

SPONGES and SPONGE BAGS.

HAIR, TOOTH and NAIL BRUSHES.

The Finest Selection of BRUSHES in the Colony, at moderate prices.

CLOTHES BRUSHES.

in EBONY and WOOD.

SOLD BY DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, LIMITED.

CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, September 5, 1899. 1731

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

September 7, 1899:—

Ulcero, British steamer, 1,030 A. George, Saigon September 3, General—ARMSTRONG, KALBERG & Co.

Choyang, British steamer, 1,192, Saver, Shanghai September 4, General—JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Diamond, British air, 1,030, J. T. Wilson, Penang and Singapore September 1, General—BAN MOH.

Bengal, British steamer, 1,158, R. Farquhar, Poonah September 5, Teo—GUTH, LIVINGSTON & Co.

DEPARTURES.

September 7:—

Athlinton, for Saigon.

Amoy, for Shanghai.

Kwong, for Shanghai.

Diamond, for Amoy.

DEPARTURES.

For Amoy, for Saigon, 150 Chinese.

For Kwong, for Shanghai, 12 Chinese.

To DEPART.

For Phra Chom Klao, for Swatow, 120 Chinese.

For Hainan, for Coast Ports, 3 Europeans, and 60 Chinese.

For Benary, for Mantung, 6 Chinese.

For Amoy, for Hainan, 90 Chinese.

SHIPPING-REPORTS.

The British steamer *Cicero* reports: Had light breeze and very fine weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Diamond* reports: Had fine clear weather, the whole up the passage. Thence on the passage, and 470 passengers for Amoy.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS will close:—

For SWATOW, SINGAPORE & BANGKOK:—

For Phra Chom Klao, at 9 a.m., on Sunday, the 8th inst.

For MANTONG:—

For Benary, at 9 a.m., on Sunday, the 8th inst.

For NAGASAKI & CHEMULPO:—

For N. N. at 5 p.m., on Monday, the 9th inst., instead of as previously notified.

For HAIPOHONG:—

For Chao, at 5 p.m., on Monday, the 9th inst.

For THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE:—

For Kent, at 5 p.m., on Monday, the 9th inst., instead of as previously notified.

For STRAIT, COLOMBO, BOMBAY & TRIESTE:—

For Aden, at 11.30 a.m., on Tuesday, the 10th inst.

For BANGKOK:—

For Amoy, at 4.30 p.m., on Tuesday, the 10th inst.

For STRAIT, COLOMBO & BOMBAY:—

For Guelcher, at 10.30 a.m., on Thursday, the 12th inst., instead of as previously notified.

For KOBE, YOKOHAMA & YANCOUVER, B.C.:—

For Amoy, at 10.30 a.m., on Thursday, the 12th inst., instead of as previously notified.

For NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA:—

For Amoy, at 5 p.m., on Thursday, the 12th inst.

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.

The United States Mail Packet *Belgic* will be despatched on WEDNESDAY, the 11th instant, with Mails for Amoy, Japan, San Francisco, the United States, Canada, Honolulu, Peru, &c., which will be closed as follows:—

10.45 a.m. Registry closes.

11 a.m. Post-Office closes, but Correspondence may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 10 cents extra Postage until the time of departure.

MAILS BY THE BRITISH PACKET.

The British Contract Packet *Rohilla* will be despatched on WEDNESDAY, the 11th September, with Mails for United Kingdom, Europe, and countries beyond, via Brindisi; to the Straits Settlements, Netherlands India, Borneo, Ceylon, Aden, Egypt, Malta, and Gibraltar.

The usual hours will be observed in closing the Mails, &c.

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.

The French Contract Packet *Volga* will be despatched on THURSDAY, the 12th instant, with Mails to the United Kingdom, Europe, and countries beyond, via Brindisi; to the Straits Settlements, Borneo, Ceylon, Aden, Malta, and the Cape, Egypt, Malta, and Gibraltar.

The usual hours will be observed in closing the Mails, &c.

A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED.

To ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.

Shipping.

Daylight. *Belgic* leaves for Coast Ports, 10 a.m.—*Phra Chom Klao* leaves for Bangkok, &c.

MEMOS FOR MONDAY.

Meeting.

4 p.m.—Meeting of Shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd., at Head Office.

Miscellaneous.

Claims against the *Melpomene* must be sent in to Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons & Co., before Noon this date.

Goods per *Arratoon Agar* undelivered after this date subject to rent.

Goods per *Gau Quin Sia* undelivered after this date subject to rent.

General Memoranda.

TUESDAY, September 10:—

11 a.m.—Tenders for Government Bills received by the Chief Paymaster.

WEDNESDAY, September 11:—

Goods per *Belgic* undelivered after this date subject to rent.

Transfer Books of The Douglas Steamship Company, Limited, closed from this date to 21st instant, inclusive.

THURSDAY, September 12:—

4 p.m.—Auction of Valuable Central Building Land.

Friday, September 17:—

Noon—Meeting of The Shumson Hotel and Land Co., Ltd., at No. 2, d'Aguiar Street.

SATURDAY, September 21:—

Noon—Meeting of Shareholders of the Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd., at the General Managers' Office.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SEEDS.

Season 1899-1890.

WE have just received our New Season's importations direct from the best Growers in England, France, and Germany, and are now prepared to execute all Orders received for same with prompt and careful attention.

DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUES.

For ordering from (containing hints for gardening) will be sent post free on application.

ORDERS FROM ONE PERSON \$5 TO \$10 ALLOWED 25 PER CENT. DISCOUNT.

ORDERS FROM ONE PERSON OVER \$10 ALLOWED AN EXTRA 5 PER CENT. DISCOUNT.

SINGLE PACKETS AT LIST PRICES.

WE GUARANTEE.

That all seeds sold by us shall prove to be as represented, to the extent that should they not do so, we will replace them or send other seeds to the same value. But we cannot guarantee the crop any further than the above offer, as there are so many causes which operate in the germination of seeds in a tropical climate, over which we have no control. Among the causes of failure may be mentioned unfavorable weather, which is one of the most important. The soil may be in proper condition when the seed is planted, but the weather which follows may be too wet, which will cause the seed to rot, or it may be too hot and dry, which destroys the germ before it shows itself. The soil may also be unfavourable for the variety of seed planted. And lastly, the seeds may be and are frequently destroyed by vermin of various kinds. Such occurrences are beyond the power of man to prevent, and for which we cannot be responsible.

Hongkong, 4th September, 1899.

WATSON'S PATENT DESSICATING BOTTLES.

WE beg to call special attention to our NEW PATENT DRYING BOTTLES, which have been specially designed and manufactured for us.

By the use of these BOTTLES, OILS, SEEDS, and GOODS of all kinds, which are susceptible to the destroying influence of moisture can be kept in good and perfect condition.

Whenever or wherever the atmosphere is saturated with moisture these BOTTLES will be found invaluable.

A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED, THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, September 4, 1899. 1717

The publication of this notice commenced 7.45 p.m.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1899.

KOREA AND THE POWERS.

Under the above title Mr. Chalmers Duncan, late of the Korean Customs, has written a book to prove that Korea ought to be constituted a neutral zone—ought to be put, by the consent of all the Powers interested, in a position in Asia somewhat resembling that held in Europe by Belgium and Switzerland. Unfortunately, Mr. Duncan, although he has evidently a mass of details at his finger ends, has no idea of order, and seems to be totally incapable of presenting his ideas in a consecutive form. The book is a hotch-potch of extracts of all kinds, interspersed with disjointed observations by the author. The very error is sufficient to make one suspicious of the contents. It contains a picture representing a polar bear climbing a tree. At the foot of the tree are three figures supposed to represent a British blue-jacket, a Chinese

KOREA AND THE POWERS.

In the distance is a building with a Korean flag over it. What the meaning of the bear climbing the tree may be, is known only to the author. We can only conjecture that the picture is meant to show that Russia has some designs on Korea and that England, China and Japan are watching her. And it is the same throughout the book; one can only conjecture what the author is driving at from a mass of stuff in which Dhuleep Singh, the 'Siberian' railway, the Central Asian railway, Li Hung Chang, A. R. Colquhoun, Judge Denny, Dr. Allen and a great many other people and things get inextricably mixed. About the truest remark in the book is the following: "It will require some patience to peruse the evidence I shall lay before the reader. However, we do not say that the reader's patience would be altogether wasted. The Korean question is a very important one, and unless some arrangement is come to Korea threatens to become as disturbing a factor in Far Eastern politics as the Balkan states are in European politics. The country is helplessly weak and bankrupt. It has on its northern frontier an aggressive, unscrupulous Power that would not hesitate to take possession if it thought the opportune moment were come; and on the west there is China, between whom and Korea an ill-defined relationship exists which may be productive of a great deal of trouble. After these two frontier Powers, Japan has the greatest interest in Korea. Commercially her interest is even greater than the other two; and it goes without saying that such a change in the balance of power in the Pacific as the seizure of Korea by Russia would materially affect Japan's political position. Then there is England, interested both politically and commercially in preventing a wide extension of Russia's power in the Pacific, for were Russia, instead of being confined to the ice-bound port of Vladivostok, in possession of the ports of Korea, her power would be enormously increased. And, although we have often ridiculed the wild rumours that are circulated whenever a Russian ironclad touches at a port of Korea, there can be no doubt that Russia covets the peninsula and has intrigued with a view of finally getting it within her power. It seems about equally well established that Korea has courted the advances of Russia. She actually solicited a Russian protectorate in 1884 and 1885, as was asserted by the Russian newspaper *Norvost*, may be doubtful; but there seems to be proof that she encouraged Russian advances in order to save herself from the booting of the Chinese resident, Yuen. Shortly thereafter Korea became suddenly alive to the importance of sending ambassadors to Europe and America, and her action in this matter and other suspicious circumstances aroused the somewhat lethargic officials of China. Li Hung-chang demanded the dismissal of the foreign adviser of the King, Mr. Denny, whom he suspected of helping Russia, or of inducing the King to repudiate alliance to China. We cannot agree with Mr. Duncan in his wild denunciation of the adviser. Mr. Denny had a very vindictive position, and in the pamphlet which he wrote in reply to Li Hung-chang he showed that the conduct of China's representative in Korea was such as would have almost justified him in favouring Russian designs. We do not believe, however, that he or the other Americans who dabbled and mixed themselves up in Korean politics had any design to see Korea in the power

At the instance of S. Rastomjee, broker, a Chinese gardener was brought before Mr. Robinson in the Police Court to-day charged with assaulting his employer and refusing to obey orders. The complainant said the defendant, who was his house gardener, refused yesterday to come upstairs when he was sent for. The complainant went down to the servants' quarters, and the defendant then rushed at him, and taking up a piece of wood or an ice-chopper attempted to strike the complainant with it. A servant, who went to the complainant's assistance, corroborated this statement. The gardener, who said Rastomjee threatened to strike him first, was fined \$15, with the alternative of six weeks' hard labour.

Mr. Robinson, the new acting Police Magistrate, has shown several times since he took his seat on the bench how very lenient he can be, and to-day he demonstrated that he can also be severe when he thinks the occasion requires it. Five Chinese shopkeepers were brought before him this morning charged by Inspector Stanton with keeping defective scales. In three of the cases, where the delinquents were persons doing a large business, his Worship imposed the unusually high fine of \$50. In doing so he said he wished to deal severely with this offence. These were cases, he said, where well-to-do people deliberately cheated all who dealt with them. They would cheat the poorest scoundrel in the colony. It was a disgraceful thing, he added, and he was determined that when he found a clear case of this kind before him he should deal with it severely. The other two men were let off easier. One of them who had one set of scales defective, but to his own disadvantage, was fined one cent, while the other man, one of the poorer class of tradesmen, although having scales that cheated his customers, was fined only \$7, his Worship being of opinion that this sum to him would represent as severe a penalty as the \$50 did to his bigger brethren.

The owner and crew of a licensed cargo boat were fined \$5 each by Commissioner Ramsey, at the Harbour Office yesterday, for throwing ballast into the harbour. As two previous convictions were recorded against the same boat, his Worship ought to have made the fine much heavier. Hongkong harbour, one of the finest in the world, is being rapidly spoiled by these boat-people and their followers. Something like 100 tons of rubbish are poured into it every week, and the police seem utterly incompetent to check what is going on under their very nose. Not very long ago one of the steamers in the harbour might have been seen churning up the mud from the bottom, and the deposit has become so extensive that the soundings made some years ago are quite inaccurate now. If the practice of filling the harbour with rubbish is allowed to go on, we shall have a reclamation that will put the Praya Reclamation in the shade. We wish our ship-masters would take an example from Captain Vere of the *Omega*, who seized the culprit that were fined yesterday and handed them over to the police. The police, although they might do a great deal more than they do, cannot be in every place at once, and if the captains or mates of vessels who hear the nightly dumping going on would signal for the police and keep a watch on the 'dumpers,' they would do a great service to the colony.

The *Pechili*, on her voyage up from Fouchow, spoke the *Chefoo* at anchor off Matsui, with her shaft broken. The latter arrived at Shanghai on the 1st inst., in tow of the *Changshu*.

The Russian man-of-war *Manjur* arrived at Nagasaki from Vladivostok on the 24th ult. and proceeded on the 26th to Korea. The flag-ship *Admiral Nakhimov*, it is anticipated, will be in dock in Yokohama for about a month.—*Rising Sun*.

This Ningpo correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* writes on the 31st ult.—I find that the *Palux* was not in ballast, but is laden with Government stores for Vladivostok, shipped for Manchu, and the *Port Said* will go on to Shanghai to refuel. Her coal bunkers are much damaged by the quantity of water shipped.

This Peking Gazette of the 22nd ult. contains an Imperial decree in reference to the breach in the north bank of the Yellow River in Shantung, which occurred on the 9th and 10th of August. Certain officials are cashiered for their remissness, and the Governor is ordered, as usual, to relieve the distressed people, and to close the breach as soon as possible. But, according to the Governor's report, it was not a breach, but an overflowing of the banks.

GO AHEAD JAPAN.—The Japanese are leaving the rest of the world behind in many things in the way of business enterprise. Here is a useful hint for Mr. W. H. Smith, the leader of the British House of Commons, and head of the book-stall trade. The *Yiji Shimo* says:—Mr. Noriki Tokubai, a bookseller of Tokyo, has decided to open branch shops or bookstalls at the various railway stations with a view to supplying books, etc., on hire to travellers. The system will be started about the beginning of next month.

The eighth international congress of Orientalists was to open at Stockholm this week under the presidency of the King of Sweden and Norway. The celebrated Oxford professor Max Müller is to be the guest of King Oscar II. on the occasion. Mr. Joseph Hain, Consul-General in Shanghai for Austria-Hungary, has had his leave prolonged to enable him to attend the Congress to which he has been appointed by his government as one of the delegates. From Austria and Germany alone 108 Orientalists are expected to attend, besides hundreds of others from all parts of the world.

It is reported that a part of the island of Madagascar is to be ceded to England. H. M. S. *Reconnaissance*, with Admiral Sir E. R. Fremantle, is now at Madagascar, on important business.

A PHILOSOPHICAL definition of luck is given by an English writer as a capability of being incapable.—
The first Rothschild was probably right, from his point of view, when he said that he never would employ an unlucky man. On the other hand, the lucky man is usually the man who fits his fortunes; who, whether apparently able or stupid, can do just what his special circumstances require him to do. Very stupid men are often ready to represent an ill-luck as a case of doge man, named with a readiness as of doge man. The 'fool who makes a fortune' is usually the man with just the foresight or just the judgment or the intuitive perception of the way things are going, to take advantage of the opportunities that are offered. The fortunate man is usually the man who, in consequence of some hidden quality in his nature, deserves fortune.

FRANCIS AND ENGLISH MANNERS.—Manners are often worst in the most industrial and advanced parts of the country. In the Highlands of Scotland, where industrial civilisation is almost unknown, popular manners are excellent; in some parts of the Lowlands they are rude, repellent, and unsympathetic. The best English manners are to be found in the rural districts, where the work is hard and energetic. There is much energy in the Englishman, but much energy is unfavourable to the best behaviour, which grows to perfection among idlers, or in agricultural and pastoral communities, where folk work in a leisurely fashion and have many spare moments on an ideal of some kind. The English way of behaviour seems to stand for dignity, the French for grace. Manners in both countries are more the representation of self in outward forms than any evidence of real consideration for the person to whom they are addressed. The Englishman wishes to convey the idea that he himself has dignity, that he is a gentleman; the Frenchman is anxious to show that he is a witty and accomplished man of the world. The virtues of English behaviour are chiefly of a negative kind, and those of French behaviour are positive. An Englishman is pleasant because he is not noisy, not troublesome, not obtrusive, not contradictory, and because he has the tact to avoid conversational pitfalls and precipices. The Frenchman is agreeable because he is lively, is amusing, is amiable, is successful in the battle against dullness, and will take trouble to make conversation interesting.—*French and English* (Macmillan).

FRAGRANT WATERS' MURMUR.—That the tone of the Sanitary Board is now more like that of a silver bell than a cracked pot—hence the business done and progress made.

That the Surveyor General is to be complimented upon the eminently reasonable view he has taken of the situation and the desire he has now manifested to meet the wishes of the public.

That it may be added here, by the way, that the wishes of the public are generally reasonable.

That Mr. Francis has appeared in a new role, that of throwing oil upon the troubled waters.

That the pugnacious Q.C. is an adept with the shillelagh, though he now and again gets 'carried away' (metaphorically) during a fight.

That for an Irishman he takes very kindly to the oil-throwing process.

That the Sanitary Surveyor does not take kindly to the little lesson recently expounded for his benefit, and this discovery has been made by his subordinates in the P. W. D.

That it was some of the Biblical worthies who said that the value of wisdom was above that of rubies.

That it is to be hoped the Sanitary Board will not lose sight of one of the main points at issue, viz., that the P. W. D. has no right to enforce the separate system of drainage without the express permission of the properly-constituted authorities.

That I understand the question, who is responsible for connecting the Peak Hotel drain with the governor-chamber of the Gas Company, is not easy to answer. That a native contractor, a European architect, two inspectors, a 'bobby,' and the Sanitary Surveyor are all said to divide the honour amongst them.

That the mistake, though a natural one, shows how necessary are the rules lately propounded by Mr. Francis regarding personal inspection. That I went Eastward in a 'ricksha' to see the Polo practice this week, and I wish Mr. Brown or his lieutenant could be persuaded to take the same journey;—ye gods! what a roil! my poor bones ache at the bare remembrance of it. That Polo may be a dangerous game, but going to see it seemed to me, if anything, a trifle more so.

That most residents will be surprised to hear that the objections to the appointment of the frontage to the new Praya have not been met, and their objections disposed of.

That a Memorial to Her Majesty, protesting against the injustice done, is not an auspicious element in the carrying out of a scheme which ought to be a great boon to its promoters and to the Colony.

That such a thing may also cause delay and expense, which might easily have been foreseen and prevented.

That the friends of our popular Harbour Master are pleased to hear of his astonishing success in the spooning competition. That before the new Praya is completed, separate landing stages ought to be arranged for steam-launches and pullaway boats, as the state of mixed-upness which at present prevails at Pedder's Wharf is sure to end in disaster. That it is gratifying to observe a manifest improvement in the manufacturing of the

launcheon in arriving at and leaving the Wharf.

That I and others begin to detect the odour of a rodent in sundry schemes that have been floating in the air of late, and to judge, by the tone of your recent editorials, you seem to have caught the scent. That it may be taken for granted that the Hon. G. P. Chater has prayed to be moved from his fatherly friends, and has wished that Mr. Norman had spared the honey when roasting his last portion for the readers of the *Poll Mail*.

That the exaggeration is all the more to be regretted because so much could have been said with truth about the ability, the enterprise, and the success of Mr. Chater, the financier.

That there is a material difference between the work accomplished by Mr. Chater and that done by the Fathers of our Colony.

That the 'princely house' of Jardine gave us the Sailor's Home and carried on the only Seamen's Hospital in the place for years at a loss, while to them (in a great measure) we owe the City Hall, besides valuable services rendered to the Colony privately and publicly (in the Council) by successive generations, not the least of which are the Peak Roads and (in a certain sense) the Public Gardens.

That the Daults, the Gibbs, the Gillmans, the Turners, the Laysells, the Dolans, the Forbeses, the Ransoms, and other honoured old names, have all left their records, and added a few bricks to the commercial monument now known, to newcomers like Mr. Norman, at Hongkong, the third port of the world, etc., etc.

That these men have given of their substance, made on the spot, for the good of the Colony, and Mr. Chater may well be proud to have his name included in such a list of the men who have really 'made Hongkong.'

That amongst those who have given largely of their substance to promote the welfare of the Colony, the name of Mr. Bellish cannot well be omitted, as that gentleman has of recent years almost eclipsed previous significance in this respect.

That I hear a local artist disputes the claim of all and sundry as the 'makers of Hongkong,' and asserts that Hongkong was never really 'clothed and in its right mind' until his advent.

That five-dollar fines imposed on persons previously convicted of throwing rubbish into the Harbour will not stop the practice.

That the fine must be sufficient to make it unprofitable for the boatmen, otherwise the money will be paid and the 'dumping' will proceed with the greatest regularity and persistency.

That the local Government has done well in purchasing the *Fane* for the Light House works, and I hear they have secured the services of Mr. Mudie, from the Dock Company, who is probably the best man they could have got in the East for this particular work, as he is an old and experienced hand at dealing with the Chinese—two very necessary qualifications.

That this purchase of the rejuvenated *Fane* is a pleasing and palpable evidence that work at the Gap Rock is 'about to begin.'

That to look not only possible, but almost certain, and not far from near.

That if the Chinese were to constitute a Railway Bureau, of such men as Sir Robert Hart, and construct and run their lines on European principles, China would soon be in a position to defend her vulnerable frontiers, and largely increase her wealth, strength, and prosperity.

That Consul Alabaster's Report on the Trade of Canton is, like all his writings, pointed and pithy.

That he is a close observer as well as an original thinker, and if his remarks are to some slightly caustic, they are always well worth reading.

That the worthy Consul notes an increase in the importation of soap, but fails to trace any corresponding increase in either cleanliness or civilization.

That a passage of arms between two Chinese under cover of the law of libel is a new departure.

That during the past week we have been, presumably, in the full enjoyment of the cool weather which old residents tell us marks the advent of September.

That early in the 'forties' September may have been conducted itself, but we unfortunately live in degenerate days.

That the worthy gentlemen who grate about such matters have probably arrived at that state when blood becomes so thin as to induce chills even in the Red Sea.

That Mr. Robinson will no doubt, worthy president at the Magistracy if he endures seasonal pangs and sentimentality. That he has a sound knowledge of law, and can protect himself against the cheek of legal luminaries who frequent his Court.

That the sinking of the steamer *Compte* in the Straits involved many Chinese traders—not insured—in heavy loss.

That the *Penny* paper remarks, 'they (the traders) will have to apply to the Bankruptcy Court in consequence.'

That it hardly seems right such palpable carelessness should be allowed the protection of the Bankruptcy Court. That the Bankruptcy law was enacted for the protection of the unfortunate, not to foster foolhardy carelessness.

That there is a point at which carelessness becomes criminal, and to neglect insurance in these days of cheap premiums almost reaches that stage.

A CHINESE BENDITION CASE.

The application by the Chinese authorities for the rendition of the two men who were recently unlawfully arrested by Chinese officers in British Kowloon, and who were subsequently delivered up on the demand of the Home Government, came before Mr. Robinson in the Police Court this morning.

Mr. Ho Wyan appeared on behalf of the Chinese authorities and asked that the case be remanded for a week.

His Worship said he could not consent to that; he must have some evidence to record before he could do that.

Mr. Ho Wyan asked what evidence his Worship required.

His Worship—Some evidence that the offence has been committed.

Mr. Ho Wyan—I propose to get up evidence and perhaps bring some witnesses. His Worship—You may, but you must have some evidence to support your case.

Mr. Ho Wyan—He is a colonel. He is not here. He fully expected that your Worship would remand the case.

His Worship—You may be able to find some evidence to support your case, but you must have some evidence to support your case.

Mr. Ho Wyan—I don't think I shall have time to send for the witnesses; they are in Kowloon.

His Worship—That is not fair, and you are bound to prosecute with the utmost reasonable promptitude. I shall take the case at five o'clock this afternoon.

On the case being called on, five o'clock, Mr. Ho Wyan asked if he could propose to the complainant in the case into the box before asking for a remand.

The charge against the first prisoner was one of highway robbery; the second prisoner, who is alleged to have harboured the first, was charged with aiding and abetting.

A man named Tang Shi Chow, who described himself as a physician practising in Sham-shui-poo and residing in Chinese territory, said he was in the possession of a man named Sham-shui-poo, the robber gave him a blow which knocked him down and rendered him unconscious for the space of 'two pulls of a tobacco-pipe.' When he regained consciousness he saw the robber standing by his side and the robber stated his name as Sham-shui-poo.

His Worship—Who is the robber? Witness—He was the man who knocked me down on the pavement, and he is named Sham-shui-poo.

Witness—He was a witness who can say. His Worship—Who is the robber? Witness—Will your Worship show me some robbery and I will try to identify him.

A coolie was brought in and the witness was asked if he was the man who was taken from him. He did not see who took the purse with the money from him. When the thief went away a friend of his came up and asked what was the matter. Witness said he could not recognize the thief. Witness then said to his friend 'if you should see him in Chinese territory tell me.'

Witness then went back to Sham-shui-poo and told a friend to inquire about the name of the robber, so that he (the witness) might send a petition to the magistrate. He sent a petition to the magistrate on the 10th of January and mentioned the name of the robber in it. It was the same friend whom he had met on the road that found out the name of the robber. He got no reply to his petition for a long time, but he heard that the robber was taken to the prison on the 9th of July. He was also told that the robber was one of the two men arrested. Witness then went to the prison and saw the man who was taken from him. He did not see who took the purse with the money from him. When the thief went away a friend of his came up and asked what was the matter. Witness said he could not recognize the thief. Witness then said to his friend 'if you should see him in Chinese territory tell me.'

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SWATOW.

The *s.s. Tamsui* arrived here on the 25th instant from Newchang and Chiofo. The vessel left Chiofo on the 10th, and experienced little weather as far as the Saddle. The rest of the passage was very rough, although without high winds. A sea which came on board carried away the gun-powder ladder, and smashed the bon-coups and ice-chest. Owing to the heavy sea the vessel was obliged to anchor in Buffalo Nose Channel for twenty-four hours. On the 24th, whilst off Pin-kai-shan, some wreckage was observed, to which a native was clinging. The vessel, steamed as close to the wreckage as possible, but the poor Chinaman doubtless through weakness was unable to catch a life-buoy which was repeatedly thrown towards him. The second officer, Mr. King, volunteered from the vessel to swim off with a line, but Captain Williams would not consent until every other means had been tried. A boat could not be launched owing to the tremendous sea, so Mr. King very bravely swam off with a lead line which he made fast to the unfortunate Chinaman, whose throat together with his rescuer was safely got on board.

Such an act is deserving of a testimonial from the Humane Society.

A few months ago the *Tamsui* picked six men off a water-logged junk near Swatow.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

EXPENSIVE ROBBERY BY A PORTUGUESE CLERK IN SHANGHAI.

The *Shanghai Mercury* of Monday last says:—The police on Saturday evening arrested a Portuguese, who resides at Boone Road, for complicity in an expensive robbery from the firm of Messrs. P. & Co., which has just come to light by accident. The prisoner's name is Placido Placido, and he is by occupation a compositor. He practically admits his guilt, and was brought up before the magistrate on Saturday morning to-day, being charged with having committed the robbery on the 24th inst. The charge against the prisoner, we believe, is for receiving \$1,035 from a Chinese bank knowing the money to be the proceeds of the robbery of a quantity of nickel from the firm above named. It would seem that as far back as July last a Portuguese clerk named Maher in the employment of the firm notoriously possessed himself of a delivery order for a quantity of nickel which was lying in one of the Chinese warehouses, and, without difficulty, obtained delivery of the stuff, which he sold to a dealer on the Soochow Creek, named Tai Chong, for \$1,035. Very shortly afterwards, Mr. Maher 'skipped' for Hongkong, without getting the money, and leaving the warehouse note in the possession of Mr. Placido, who was to remit him the money after deducting a certain sum for himself. Placido presented the note in due course to Tai Chong, who gave him an order for the amount on a native bank in the Ningbo Road, which he did not get; the full sum agreed upon. He gave Tai Chong a receipt signed with a bogus name, and strangely enough the receipt was only for \$135, the prisoner says was a mistake owing to his ignorance of English. He then went to the other part of the nickel, and sold it to a friend in Hongkong and pocketed the remainder for himself. The robbery was not found out till the other day when Tai Chong sold the nickel to another dealer, and the latter, who had been told that he had paid too high a figure for the metal, went to Maher's late employers to inquire about the price of nickel. It was only then, we believe, that the train was laid and the facts of the robbery brought to light.

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